

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

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THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN

A WEEKLY JOURNAL.

LOCAL NEWS AND HOME READING.

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Office: Over the Post Office.

OFFICE HOURS: From 8 to 10 o'clock A. M., and from 4 to 6 P. M. For the present, some one will also be found there between 7 and 8 o'clock each week night to receive business.

News Summary.

Foreign.—The motion to forbid Mr. Bradlaugh taking the oath passed the House of Commons, Mr. Gladstone voting against it. — Seventy lives were lost by the burning of the steamer *Great Britain* in the Pacific ocean. — It is exactly a year since the Phoenix Park murders, and Timothy Kelly, tried for the third time, has now been sentenced to be hung. — The revolution in Ecuador is serious. — Dynamite all along the line: Cronstadt, Russia; Armenian secret societies; neighborhood of Prince Napoleon's chateau, France. — Bismarck is sick. — Arthur Sullivan and George Grove write "Sir" before their names. — Louis Viardot dead. — Irish murder trials going forward. — Lord Wolseley and Lord Alcester, not pensioned. — Moody and Sankey on "Alaska," and the quickest trip.

Domestic.—New civil service rules announced by the President. — Plan to create a Dean of the Faculty at Princeton, to assist President McCosh, now under debate. Dr. James O. Murray being the expectant appointee. — Big dog show at Madison Square Garden, Great Britain. — "Sir" before their names. — Louis Viardot dead. — Irish murder trials going forward. — Lord Wolseley and Lord Alcester, not pensioned. — Moody and Sankey on "Alaska," and the quickest trip.

About Town.

— The Parson's farm, near Brookdale, was sold last Tuesday to Mr. Philip Mann for \$2,750.

— The young ladies of the First Presbyterian Church are shouldering brooms and charging broomsticks under the solitary supervision of Mr. Grant Wheeler.

— An innocent stranger lately mistook one of the unfinished paths in the park for a public highway. He was seen calmly driving across, and then finding an outlet, with much surprise, between the posts on the opposite side.

— The Park M. E. Church had its windows broken this week, and that busy hive is in an active buzz in consequence. We have no room for hoodlums or firebugs in Bloomfield.

— "The Sociable" will meet for the last time this season, Friday evening, the 18th inst., at the residence of Mr. John Newton.

— Chas. P. Batchelor obtained his pension this week from the Government for injuries received in the late war.

— James Powers incurred a fracture of the left leg on Friday of last week. It was set by Dr. White. His other leg was broken a few years ago.

— John Sherman's house, near the Watessing depot, has been made as bright as a new dollar by a fresh coat of paint.

— Malarial influences in New York city and the immediate vicinity are sending people this way in quest of health and pure air.

— The Close House reminds one of Haps Christian Anderson's description of the peasant's hut: "This hut was so dilapidated that it did not know on which side it should fall; and that's why it remained standing." The business of destruction, however, belongs to the proper owner, and not to the boys, who have taken pains to interpret THE CITIZEN'S remarks of last week in their own way rather than in ours. The boys must really stop, and the owner of the property must make it less of an eye-sore.

— There has lately been a painful rumor to the effect that a certain gentleman, rather proud of his hens, made a present of a dozen or so of eggs to one of his lady friends. Unfortunately, he took the wrong hen's nest, and the eggs were pretty bad in fact, so bad that a promising brood of young chickens was entirely spoiled.

— Charley Heckel went a-gunning with a revolver for a dog very early last Monday morning. He stumbled, unfortunately, and instead of bagging the dog, shot himself through the hand. Charley was, at last accounts, doing well; so was the dog.

— We acknowledge the receipt of our bright little junior, "The Star." Master Horace Freeman does very nicely, only he roller with which the *Star* forms are asked is a trifle too black, you know. Do you know? Every amateur should

keep his ideas up to the professional standard. We place the *Star* on our exchange list with pleasure.

— It was grimly remarked by a Newark man who noted the small size of a Presbytery meeting on Wednesday, that "It wasn't a good day for Presbyterians when Presbytery and circus came together, and made the brethren choose which they preferred."

— The Hedden property, corner of Midland Avenue and Washington Street, now owned by the Mutual Benefit Insurance Company, is being thoroughly overhauled and repaired within and without.

— The school census is being taken by the authorities; further particulars hereafter.

— The D. L. & W. R. R. Co. are laying the second track between Roseville and Bloomfield as fast as circumstances will permit. Work will soon be commenced on the new bridge over Second River.

— The Park posts were sold on Thursday, as advertised, at prices ranging from ten cents to four cents, in lots to suit purchasers.

— We call attention to the advertisement of the Fire Association, requesting all subscribers to cash up with happy despatch. The new apparatus is to be contracted for at the earliest possible date.

— The congregation of the Church of the Sacred Heart have presented their pastor, Rev. Father Nardiello, with a horse and buggy. The same congregation recently purchased land for a cemetery back of Oakes & Co's mill; they are now laying it out in plots.

— Mr. B. T. Kirby and family, and Mr. J. C. Freeborn and family, of Glen Ridge, have moved; the former to Riverside, the latter to Brooklyn.

— The grading about Mr. Willard Richard's properties is rapidly approaching completion. Franklin St. is to be widened about ten feet, and a new street is to be opened between Mr. Richard's place and Dr. Weeks's, connecting Franklin Street and Bloomfield Avenue. The improvement, both in appearance and convenience, which these changes will make will be very great.

— Mr. Richard Handy has purchased the property on Park Street which he now occupies, and from this time on we shall count him as a permanent resident.

— The excavations at the railroad station have developed a fine sand pit.

— On Sabbath evening a beginning was made in the effort to break up the corner-loading which has prevailed to such an extent of late. Justice Hegeman caused the arrest of one of the offenders, and after giving him a severe rebuke, dismissed him with the assurance that a repetition of the offense would be punished by either fine or imprisonment.

Mr. Brown and the Social Orchestra.

The wisdom of the managers of the band in giving us such a fine entertainment last Wednesday evening, is to be commended. One or two more like the one given some months since, we fear, would have chilled the interest of even its most enthusiastic friends. Were it the duty of criticism merely to find fault, as some seem to think, we could soon finish.

Miss Brown has certainly added to her already fine reputation in Bloomfield. It seems to us we never heard any better reading. She is not only a good elocutist, but she acts well, she not only reads and acts well, but she is a handsome woman, and this last is of no small account.

Beauty may be only skin deep, but to a woman who adopts the stage as a profession it is an almost indispensable possession. Even so thorough a musician as "Moses"—who first put orchestral music in England on a proper footing, and was a valued friend of Beethoven—said of a certain singer, that, when he sat with his back to her he was enchanted by her music, but the mere sight of her made it unendurable. Mary Stuart had a surpassingly beautiful face, and it requires nothing short of a genius to play the part without one. Young ladies in poems, plays, and novels are almost always beautiful; and it is very hard to have a homely reality thrust into the place of a lovely ideal. Miss Brown's handsome, expressive countenance causes no shock when it takes the place of our ideal, and her rich, well-trained voice leaves little to be desired in the completion of the personification. And she is not only a good elocutist, but she is a good actress. Like almost all elocutists, she makes too great a use of a sort of wailing tone in her pathetic pieces. A little of this is very effective, but too much of it is tiresome. And the Woman was a great piece of truth, well given. Few outside the profession have any idea of the drudgery of the stage. Lady Gay Spanker's horse speech was splendidly done. The scene from Mary Stuart showed true feeling and dramatic power, and Miss Brown brought a suspicion of tears to not a few eyes. Money Musk afforded the greatest delight to the audience.

THE MUSIC.

It is, indeed, a real pleasure to have at last some concerted music rendered by home talent, which can be heartily praised without doing violence to one's conscience, or depending too much on that great virtue which lies in an "if." We are not acquainted with Mr. Richter, but the admirable balance of power he has established between the different instruments shows he must be a good conductor. No one heretofore has succeeded in this with our choruses or orchestras. Every part, as a rule, seems to be played or sung with the most utter disregard of what he is doing. And the effect, as a rule, likewise, is not enjoyed

by the audience, though it may be by the performers.

There was comparatively little of this steady-chase system *and* new system in the playing of the Social Orchestra. The different instruments blended beautifully. The cornet and baritone players are to be congratulated on keeping their powerful notes within bounds. As a usual thing, when an amateur's cornet is in the neighborhood, other sounds are scarcely distinguishable. The skillful manner in which Miss Fairbanks made her piano a part of the orchestra, neither accompanying it nor being accompanied by it, deserves notice.

With a few unimportant exceptions, both time and harmony were admirable. The violins at times did not agree, especially in staccato passages, and the cornets did not always give as clear and pure notes as was desirable; but of what use to note these or other small faults, when the general result was so very satisfactory. With such an efficient leader, and such good material, we shall doubtless hear better music from the orchestra each time they appear before us. We hope at least that this organization, unlike their many predecessors, will not commit the fatal error of standing still, through mistaken ideas of perfection.

The first piece—the Juno March—was well played, but too monotonous to be altogether pleasing. The Flowers of St. Petersburg, Waltz, was evidently much enjoyed, and was followed by an encore. The overture, however, exhibited the resources of the orchestra to the best advantage. It was rendered in true operatic style, and Devilshoof and his gypsy friends were strongly called to mind. Secret Love, of course, pleased everybody, and was repeated in better style the second time.

The dirty, dilapidated stage-setting detracted very much from the enjoyment of the occasion.

Sudden Death.

Mr. Peter Henn, residing near the Centre, went to bed Wednesday night apparently in good health. Between 12 and 1 o'clock he was taken suddenly with symptoms of heart trouble, and died within a few minutes. The funeral will take place at his residence on Sunday, at half-past one o'clock.

More Incendiarism.

Early yesterday morning a milkman discovered a fire in James Crisp's belt factory, on Bloomfield Avenue, near Race Street. As the fire had hardly got started, it was promptly extinguished. The Fire Association has begun an investigation.

A Collision on the N. Y. & G. L. R. R.

Tuesday afternoon, a locomotive with a platform car and a freight car attached, was standing on the track, near the Bloomfield station of the Greenwood Lake R. R. A wild-cat locomotive, coming along at full speed, dashed into the end of the freight car, and tumbled it forward on top of the platform car, wrecking them completely. The cow-catcher of the locomotive was smashed, and the smoke-stack knocked off. The track was blocked for about three hours, while the confused mass of wood and iron was being removed. It is said that the engineer of the locomotive which did the damage failed to notice the flag sent back to stop him. We know not how this may be, but certain it is that there was gross carelessness somewhere.

A New Organ for the First Church.

The contract for the new organ to be built for the Presbyterian Church of this place has been awarded to Mr. L. C. Harrison, of New York, successor to the well-known firm of Henry Erben & Co., who have the score of the best known organs in the country, that in Trinity Church, New York, being one of them. The scheme selected by the organ committee has been endorsed by prominent organists as well as builders, and together with the reputation of the maker gives every assurance that the instrument will be first class in all particulars.

It will contain thirty-four stops and have in its construction all the essential improvements. It will be placed in the church about the 1st of October next.

Bloomfield Fire Association.

Pursuant to notice, a meeting of the Bloomfield Fire Protective Association was held on Monday evening in Wilde's Hall. The attendance was large, and the interest felt in the proceedings was manifested. Mr. J. M. Bancroft, as president of the temporary organization, took the chair. A report was made by the Executive Committee, recommending the establishment of a permanent organization, which was adopted. On motion the chair appointed Messrs. Tower, Porter, Moore, Chambers, and Puffer to prepare the form of such an organization, and to report within half an hour, during which the meeting should take a recess.

The committee having returned, reported that the name of the proposed organization be the "Bloomfield Fire Association," that its purposes be "the protection of life and property from fire, the adoption of such means as will best serve that intent, and the purchase, lease, use, housing, care, disposal, and sale or exchange of such apparatus and property, real and personal, as may be useful or may be deemed advisable therefor." For officers they proposed a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Fire Marshal—all to be *ex-officio* trustees, to be elected by the association. The report was adopted, and the following officers were elected: President, Wm. R. Weeks, Vice-President, A. R. Brewer, Treasurer, Wm. B. Chambers, Secretary, Frank G. Tower, Fire Marshal, Andrew J. Marsh, Trustees, J. Howard Hardcastle, Geo. S. Porter, Wm. L. Puffer, G. Theron Moore, J. M. Bancroft, C. D. M. Peele, Thos. McGowan, John Sherman. The President was by vote requested to ascertain what action was necessary to be taken in order to secure for the Fire Marshal the proper authority to tear down buildings, and otherwise provide against the spread of a fire, and to report at the next meeting of the association. The secretary was directed to insert an advertisement in the BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN requesting all subscribers to the funds to pay their subscriptions at once.

The committee on membership was also directed to further canvass the list of subscribers and to invite those who have

not yet become members, to join the organization. On motion, adjourned, to meet at the call of the Board of Trustees.

Cheap Homes.

In reading the many excellent articles in your issue of April 28, my eye was attracted by the heading, "Cheap Homes." This is a subject that interests me both as a young man desirous of a home of that kind, and as one who has been concerned in providing them for others. I am driven to the conclusion that the writer of the article in question is either ill informed on the subject, or much better informed than I am.

It is undoubted that houses to be rented for thirty-five dollars per month or less find ready takers, and that the supply of such houses is less than the demand. But this does not prove "that if capitalists will invest their money in this class of houses, a profitable rate of interest may be realized." It simply proves that some rate of interest would be realized. The writer does not show that the owners of houses rented for thirty-five dollars per month or less are getting a good return, only that they are getting some return.

Let us examine the details: Suppose the lot to cost one thousand dollars, and this is a fair estimate for lots in good localities.

The house then must cost not more than three thousand dollars to be profitably rented for four hundred dollars a year, which is less than thirty-five dollars a month.

Out of this three thousand dollars must be taken one hundred and fifty dollars for grading and seeding lawn, twenty-five dollars for insurance while building and six months' interest on the money locked up while building, in all two hundred and fifty-five dollars, leaving for actual use on the house two thousand seven hundred and thirty-five dollars.

For this sum a house can not be built that will rent for four hundred dollars. I have recently secured estimates on a house measuring about twenty-seven by twenty-nine feet. The house contains eight rooms, a hall, bathroom, and modern improvements complete; is to be finished in a plain but substantial manner. No money is to be wasted in this house in any way. The lowest estimates were above thirty-five hundred dollars. This house will rent for about three hundred and seventy-five dollars per annum.

Another house built two years ago, measuring twenty-five by thirty feet, cost complete, over three thousand dollars. This rents for three hundred and twenty-five dollars per annum.

I have had estimates made on other houses not built, and I know the cost of some lately built by others; and I venture the assertion that no house twenty-five feet square can be built substantially, with modern improvements, and any rent to be realized thereon is less than three thousand dollars, without including grading and other items mentioned above.

If the modern improvements be left out, the house will be materially cheapened, even to the extent of the article criticised, but then, even if the house rents, which is doubtful, it will not sell, for people of all means how demand these conveniences.

It is desirable to have in this town the very class of people who use those houses, but either their ideas of rent must go up, or their ideas of houses come down.

Such a house as I admit can be built for three thousand dollars would cost complete, ready to rent, about three thousand and four hundred dollars, and one thousand for the lot and you have four thousand and forty dollars for which four hundred and forty dollars per annum must be charged, and in order to average six per centum net on the money invested. This house as a matter of fact would rent for about three hundred dollars per annum, which would net the owner about four per centum per annum. The problem of cheap houses is yet to be solved.

More about Mud.

Sir: In last week's CITIZEN "Bespattered" and his wife expressed most feelingly their thoughts on the Bloomfield sidewalk question. "Too many cooks spoil the broth," but after soup comes fish. I am deeply interested in the cooking of "Bespattered's" broth, which is rich if mud can make it so; but if it be now digested, may I not serve my fish? If, after struggling through the mud-broth of the sidewalk of "Bespattered's" article, any one of our citizens should, on a rainy day, attempt to cross the northern end of the park, from Broad Street to Park Place, he would wish he were a fish, for so would he swim more easily. And when mud has replaced mud, should he again wade his way along that path, he would long for a quill wing of a dove, that he might soar, who, the many stones on its surface pretty busy are as trying to one's feet as the jerky rears the poor pilgrim's un on the increase? "Gin well is good; so to again."

The good woman "run this station?" asked of have a better after a turn on the platform end of its m, else runs it," growled in either side have you got a patent freely inters have the g and hopeful going to tell you to go to thund on had. Want special freight BESPATTERED?

The world is a little day, give any passes. perverseness want any. inscribed thing for the next train? minds and "sincerely," pursuit over to charter a car?"

at left him on the platform, and "But, my office and bustled himself for marry you, when the quiet man looked 'Ah, at the asked: "Fliegeln!"

my business," was the prompt Remaining "is the income from this station?" at Bloom the baggage man."

May 9, 18 name is —, isn't it?" "ose it is?"

Bland & nothing much—only I'm the Gen-Bigelow, Hager of the line, and I'd like to Caldwell cards with you."

at time you see two women kiss- other, just notice how quick they please. Rochester Express.

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